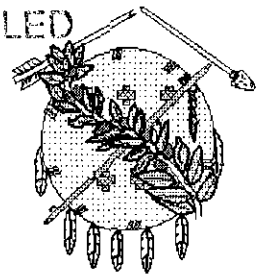
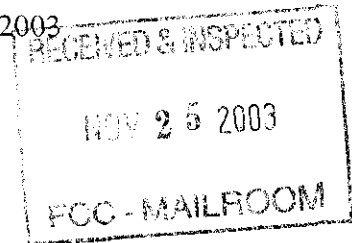


City of Broken Arrow
Public Works Department
Post Office Box 610
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74013

ORIGINAL

November 14, 2003



Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St. SW, Room TW A-325
Washington DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice -- WT Docket No. 02-55
Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band

To the Secretary:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the WT Docket No. 02-55
"Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz band" case.

One aspect of the case that I am concerned with is the proposal to freeze all requests of non-public safety users, such as public utilities, for additional bandwidth in the 800 MHz band. This would seriously hamper utility communications by preventing electric utilities, including AEP-PSO and others, from upgrading their radio coverage in areas that need improvement.

To say that electric utilities and public service agencies work hand in hand is an extreme understatement. These utilities are real-life first responders and true partners to our public service professionals, to the extent that we have called upon them for assistance when our communications systems have problems. Whatever rules the Commission propounds on this issue, we urge you, at the very least, to avoid any type of freeze on these critical public service systems.

Again, thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Mark Ketchum
City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Communications System Manager

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